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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/572,567 Confirmation No. 8024
Applicant(s) : Nestor RODRIGUEZ-AMAYA et al.
Filed : March 17, 2006
TC/A.U. : 3747
Docket No. : R.306744
Customer No. : 02119

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: May 19, 2008

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b),
AND EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE OF THE CITED PRIOR ART**

Sir:

The undersigned hereby requests that the prior art cited on the attached prior art statement be placed of record in the application file and be considered by the examiner.

This citation of prior art is made under 37 CFR 1.97(b), since it is being filed before the mailing date of the First Office Action.

The relevance of the prior art cited on the attached form PTO/SB/08a is as follows:

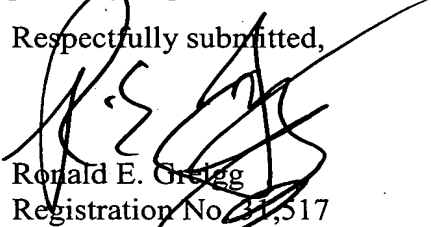
JP 5-66374

This invention is related to a flow control valve suitable for controlling the flow of the water which flow through the inside of the heat exchanger which used it for a gas hot water supply device, a fan-coil unit, etc., and with which they were equipped. In a flow control valve which this design is provided with the valve chest, a valve body in which two ports open for free passage were formed, and a valve element provided movable in this valve element, and controls a flow of flowing fluid by movement of this valve element between

these ports. A valve port between one side of this port, and this valve chest, and a valve seat is provided in the surroundings of an open end by the side of this valve chest of the valve port. A conic surface sloping between this valve seat and a valve port about this valve port, and a valve seat which engages with this valve seat, and a tip part which enters in this valve port are provided in this valve element. It attaches to a valve rod which moves this valve element to an axial direction of this valve port, and is made movable with this valve rod, and it is constituted so that an outer diameter may be decreased for a time, as an edge of this tip part is made into a curved surface of the curvature radius R and an apical surface is approached according to this curved surface.

Examination of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures

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